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Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" சென்ற வருஷம் மலபார் ஜில்லாவுக்கு மட்ட ரகமான அரிசியை அனுப்பிவைத்து, அது அங்கு விற்காமல் தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவிற்கு அங்கிருந்து அனுப்பப்பட்டு, தஞ்சாவூரில் அந்த அரிசி மில்லில் பாலிஷ் செய்யப்பட்டதனுல், பெரிய நஷ்டம் ஏற்பட்டது சர்க்காருக்குத் தெரியுமா ? அந்த மாதிரி மட்ட ரகமான அரிசியை மலபாருக்கும் தஞ்சாவூருக்கும் மாற்றிக்கொண்டேயிருக்காமல் இருப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் தக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A separate question may be put."

Alleged starvation death in Malabar.

* 270 *Q.*—Sri P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether any starvation deaths were reported from Malabar during June, July and August 1953?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No starvation death was reported from Malabar during the months of June, July and August 1953."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Has not the Government received a telegraphic message from Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar, M.L.A., Taliparamba, informing the Government that some starvation deaths have taken place in Padiyur village, Irikkur firka, Chirakkal taluk? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Not to my knowledge, Sir. I don't know when it was sent. The hon. Member may give the date."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The hon. Minister said that there were no starvation deaths. May I know whether there were starvation suicides during this period? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" There is no classification as ' starvation suicide '. There might have been cases of attempted suicide."

Sri N. MAHALINGAM :—" May I know what the hon. Member Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar was doing when the starvation deaths occurred? "

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" I did not hear the question properly."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Hundreds of starvation deaths have taken place in Malabar recently. May I know whether it is a fact that this Government had issued instructions that even if starvation deaths take place, they should not be reported to the Government? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I think the confusion arises in this way. Ordinary deaths are probably taken to be starvation deaths. There must have been deaths but I don't know what they were due to."

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The hon. Member Sri Mahalingam was asking what the hon. Member was doing when people were dying of starvation. Though the officials concerned were not in a position to go to such long distances for want of transport facilities, the hon. Member went to the spot, organized a relief committee, collected money and did all that was possible and saved the other people. Even now this relief is being continued. But it is regrettable that even in spite of repeated representations the Government and the Hon. Minister were not pleased to look into the matter and see that people were saved from death due to starvation."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Is this a question? "

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" A personal explanation, Sir."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" The hon. Member Sri K. P. Gopalan put a question whether the Government had issued instructions to local authorities concerned not to report starvation deaths even though they occurred. I want definite answer from the Hon. Minister."

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No, Sir. It is rather insinuating."

Prohibition of lorry traffic on certain roads in South Kanara.

* 271 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state— 12–10 p.m.

(*a*) whether any roads in South Kanara have been prohibited for lorry transport; and

(*b*) if so, why?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes Sir, goods vehicular traffic has been prohibited on some roads in the district.

" (*b*) This prohibition has been made, as there are a number of weak bridges and culverts which make certain roads unsafe for heavy traffic."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Is it not a fact that in spite of putting up the board ' Not open for lorry traffic ' lorries are still running on such roads? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I should like the hon. Member to catch at least one such case and give it to me."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—" How long have these culverts been in this condition? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have no idea. We took them over only in April 1952."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."